THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1944

Britain's War Effort

Of the 33,250,000 people in Britain between the ages of 14 and 65, including the medically unfit and mothers of small families, 22,500,000 are mobilized in one of the armed services or are engaged in vital war work. Of this number 7,000,000 are women. These and other facts testifying to the magnificent war effort which Great Britain has been making are given in a recently issued booklet, Britain's Industrial Achievement Behind the Fighting Fronts.

It is noteworthy that work in the greatly expanded munitions industries is largely performed by women. In some big gun plants the payrolls are over 70 per cent women, and in the aircraft industry, now the greatest in Britain, they total over 40 per cent of the staff, working 56 hours a week as skilled machine tool operators and in countless other tasks.

More impressive than the numbers who have gone into factories, is the fact that over 5,000,000 Britons have been transferred to jobs in districts far from their homes. Their work does not end in the plant. Every woman from 20 to 45 who works less than 55 hours a week and every man from 18 to 63 who works less than 60 hours a week is called upon to do additional service of 48 hours every four weeks, in the Civil Defense Services, or as a Home Guard or Fire Guard—all of which is unpaid.

Even Britain's children have been mobilized. Of those boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 17, 77 1-2 per cent of the boys and 67 1-2 per cent of the girls are doing war work. And in addition to this service, over 500,000 are enrolled

After the disaster of Dunkerque there were in all Britain 200 light tanks, armed with machine guns and 50 slightly larger infantry tanks. Within 24 months—the months of the blitz—she had in stock 12,000 newly designed tanks, in addition to the thousands sent to Russia and to the British armies in Africa. Throughout that same period British shipyards had replaced all the losses of capital ships, aircraft carriers, cruisers and destroyers suffered by the Royal Navy. By March, 1943, those yards had sent 900 warships, ranging from 35,000-ton battleships to trawlers into action.

Maintenance has been no small part of the work of war. To the end of September, 1942, 35,000 ships had been repaired and put back into service in addition to the 34,000 warship repairs and refits which had been completed. For the African invasion alone alterations were made on 300 merchant ships and thousands of assault craft and landing barges were designed and built.

Development of Britain's aircraft industry is perhaps the best known chapter of this story. Not only have British engineers designed the outstanding military planes of the war, but the industry itself was outbuilding the long-established, highly developed German industry before the end of 1943 — this in spite of the fact that its own factories had to be rebuilt time after time. The dispersal program which made this possible is a managerial achievement without parallel.

Britain's farm workers, representing less than 2 per cent of the population and now mostly women, have increased the island's production from 40 to 70 per cent of the nation's greatly expanded requirements. In six months during 1942 milk production alone was increased by 40,000,000 gallons though 50,000 fewer cows were being milked. Related to all of this is an unbelievable story of transportation. Every week 20,000 freight trains carry raw materials to and finished products from thousands of factories. Each week 7,000 extra trains are required to accommodate war workers alone, another 4,000 to handle troop movements.

Stab-In-The-Back

The New York Sunday Times describes the present Hitler attempt to build up among German people, as he undoubtedly did after the last war, the idea that the German people were stabbed in the back by collapse caused by traitors on the home front. This myth, The Times thinks, will again gain headway with the German people. That paper sums it up:

It would be too much to expect that this new myth of the stab-in-the-back, 1944 model, will not be believed in Germany, even long after the collapse of Germany and the downfall of the Nazis. For the beliefs of most people are dictated by their amour propre; and it will suit the vanity of the "master race" to believe that it was betrayed from within rather than that it was defeated by its inferiors from without. There are always an endless number of alibis for defeat; there will be always an endless number of ready-made villains and potential stabs in the back.

But regardless of what myth is adopted by German historians or by German agitators in the remoter future, we can feel confident that there is a daily growth in the number of Germans who are now secretly hoping for the same kind of "stab in the back" that they got in 1918. The 1918 stab in the back saved Germany from a far greater disaster. It brought peace without further useless bloodshed. It brought peace while the soldiers of the Reich were still on foreign soil and before their own country had been laid waste or even invaded by the Allied armies.

Germany today is in many respects in a far worse situation than it was in September, 1918, when Ludendorf found the situation desperate. At that time Russia had been knocked out of the war; Germany was fighting on only one front. Today the German armies are menaced from east and south and west. Then German cities were virtually intact; now almost daily another German city is being levelled to the ground by the overwhelming might of Allied air power. Defeat is recognized to be certain by all the fanatics. But because they know they will pay with their own lives the Nazi gang in control of Germany will not surrender under any conditions, no matter how hopeless the position of the country becomes. Only another "stab in the back" can save what is left.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The hold-up at both Borden and Wood Islands is becoming serious.

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In visiting the Governor-General at the Citadel, Quebec, was the Prime Minister submitting his views regarding the election date?

* * * *

Only the Maritime Provinces have Liberal Governments at present, and there is excellent prospect of a Progressive Conservative win in the coming election in New Brunswick.

* * * *

The National Union for Social Justice organized in 1934 by the Rev. Father Charles E. Coughlin, Detroit, has been dissolved. A little over a year after its organiation in 1934 Father Coughlin said the union's membership had passed 5,000,000 and had a goal of 10,000,000 members.

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Tory wartime officeholders beware. Mr. McTague says the real issue, and the real trouble with Mr. King and his associates is that "they have developed a power complex." To Mr. King, the Government and the Liberal Party have come to mean the same thing, and anyone who undertook to serve the Government in wartime was "expected to be a subscriber to the tenets of the Liberal Party."

* * * *

Safety first. Replying in the British House of Commons to a Member of Parliament who asked a question, following Mr. Churchill's visit to Normandy, as to whether the Prime Minister ought to be allowed to expose himself to such danger, the Minister of Information, Mr. Brendan Bracken, said: "I should not care to take the unnecessary risk of telling Mr. Churchill that he should not take unnecessary risks."

* * * *

Britain's General Post Office undertakes many odd jobs to help the war effort in addition to maintaining its vast public services. More than 10,000 members of the forces have been trained as Morse and teleprinter operators in Post Office telegraph schools. The Post Office, too, plays its part in sending on, free of charge, to the distributing centres the millions of books and magazines which the British public hands in over the Post Office counters for members of the Forces.

* * * *

The Indian railroad system is the fourth largest in the world, only Russia, the United States and Canada taking precedence. The route mileage open to traffic in 1938-39 was 41,134, consisting of 21,255 miles of broad gauge track (5'6"), 15,757 miles of metre track (3'3-3-8") and 4,122 miles of narrow gauge track (2'6" and 2'). A further 1,000 miles of track are being constructed, short feeder lines designed to promote the marketing of agricultural products.

* * * *

Geoffrey Cust Faber, British author and publisher, born this date 1889; educated at Rugby and Christ Church, Oxford; joined the Oxford University Press in 1913; appointed Fellow and Estates Bursar of All Souls College in 1923; Chairman of Faber and Faber, publishers in 1924; President of the Publishers Association 1939-1941; his works include: "Interflow", "The Valley of Vision", "Elnoria", "Political Works of John Gay", "Oxford Apostles", "A Publisher Speaking", "The Buried Stream."

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The House of Commons Defence Regulations Committee have recommended to Parliament that Defence of Canada Regulations be strengthened as follows: 1. The regulations should be strengthened. 2. Certificates of naturalization should be granted collectively instead of individually. 3. An appropriate impressive ceremony should be established in relation to the granting of naturalization. 4. New Canadians should be taught their duties and responsibilities.

* * * *

Dunedin, New Zealand, has raised over $5,000 by public subscription in token of goodwill towards and kinship with Edinburgh. In sending this gift, the Mayor of Dunedin, Mr. A. H. Allen, has written to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Sir William Y. Darling, reminding him that the Settlements of Dunedin and of the province of Otago were founded by Scots men and women in 1847-48, and that the Early Settlers came mainly from Edinburgh. The idea of the founders was, he says, "to make the Settlement of Otago, as far as practicable, Scottish in character. Dunedin, capital of the province, is modelled on the lines of Edinburgh." Its streets and localities are named after "the Mother City." Dunedin has its Princes and Georges Streets, its Moray Place, Heriot Row, Canongate, and Water of Leith. As a guide to what Dunedin would feel an appropriate use of the money, the Mayor suggests the partial reconstruction of one of the civic buildings, or the furnishing of a room in the civic chambers, to be known as "Dunedin Room", or that it have a part in Edinburgh's War Memorial. Though Dunedin limited its gift aim to $5,000, the citizens' donations reached several hundreds beyond that sum. The surplus is to be devoted to a series of photographs tracing the early stages of the development of the city of Dunedin and its environs.

Notes By The Way

It is reported that Hitler is to see a film of the trial and execution of the eight German officers involved in the alleged attempt on his life. This should be about as pleasant as seeing a preview of his own funeral.—Montreal Gazette.

"Evasive action" is when the bird who touched you for "a couple-bucks till pay day" sees you coming and tages the other side of the street.—Ottawa Citizen.

Sipping bay rum and hair tonic through a straw, as two men were discovered doing, seems to be a perfect method of providing internal combustion during these broiling days.—Hamilton Spectator.

Over in Harrisburg, Pa., two young people were married on roller skates. The result, we take it, of falling for one another. —Ottawa Citizen.

There's something exceedingly shortsighted about the reported German plan to destroy all factory machinery, raw materials and fuel which cannot be transported to Germany when the Nazis finally retreat behind their Siegfried Line. It will mean just so much more the Germans will have to replace when the Allies dictate the peace terms. —Buffalo Courier-Express.

A recent census discloses that the Smiths and not the MacDonalds are now the predominant tribe in Scotland. There are complaints that such favored names as Dewar, Johnny Walker, Haig and Haig, are also scarcer in some parts of the world.—Ottawa Citizen.

The ostracism in store for Japan is among her future punishment and may make her wince almost as much as military defeat. President Roosevelt declares that other nations can not trust Japan and that years must pass before her word can again be accepted as a pledge of honour. The infamy of Pearl Harbour will not soon be forgotten. —Hamilton Spectator.

We have heard too many diagnoses of the cause of juvenile delinquency, and too few cures. Most authorities, self-styled and otherwise ,agree that the fault lies with the parents. But the city of San Francisco is doing something about it. Parents of delinquents are "sentenced" by a juvenile court to eight lectures on how to rear children. Perfect attendance may bring them a suspended sentence, other things being equal. But the case is not disposed of till school is finished. Sounds like a good idea.—Kitchener Record.

What characterizes almost all Hollywood pictures is their inner emptiness. This is compensated for by an outer impressiveness. Such impressiveness usually takes the form of a truly grandiose Belasco realism. Nothing is spared to make the setting, the costumes, all of the surface details correct. These efforts help to make the essential emptiness of the characterizations, and the absurdities and trivialities of the plots. The houses look like houses, the streets look like streets; the people look and talk like people; but they are empty of humanity, credibility, and motivation. —James T. Farrell in Saturday Review of Literature.

Paddy is a brown and white fox terrier and a hero. He and his mistress, Miss Day, were sleeping in a semi-basement when he heard the engine of a flying bomb. He jumped on to the bed and licked his mistress' face to wake her. She managed to slip under the bed. Paddy followed her. The bomb exploded. Glass crashed in. "The bed was covered with broken glass", said Miss Day, whose forehead was bandaged. "If Paddy had not awakened me I would have been seriously injured." — London Evening News.

Of course, the way to water the lawn is to be quite businesslike and go about the job as though sprinkling the grass would be the last thing you would ever do. You trundle out the hose, grasp it firmly and hang on, while the water goes here, there an everywhere. But, there are other ways to water the lawn. There is the more comfortable rocking chair method. All you do is take a rocker down to the parched spot, then you hold the hose with one hand, read the late sports edition with the other, and check over the passerby. Or, you can sit on the front porch an have the small boy bring the hose to you. Then, as you admire your estate from the front steps, you can water away to your heart's content. The range can be altered by moving the armchair. Best of all, you can appear in the shop or office next morning and talk about how dry it has been, how the lawn would be all burned up, if it had not been for the sprinkling you gave it. You may be all wet, but it's fun.—Windsor Star.

The Poet's Corner

HISTORY

Once it was packed like a box with
the tops of childhood,
Even the largest dolls grown small
and familiar,
And the cuckoo clock saying,
'Tomorrow, tomorrow'.
Once it was sad and comic like Mr.
Punch,
And events jumped up, like Judy,
to be whacked
Over the head, and the greatest
kings, like actors,
Were happily at once alive and
dead.
Once it was apart
As a crumbled castle on a darkening slope
Half-seen from the express.
But whether it was tall as towers
or
Tumbled with playthings like the
nursery floor,
It was remote and faithful.

History,
Coming too close,
Is monstrous, like a doll
That is alive and bigger than the
child
Who tries to hold it.
It is a clock that cries the thirteenth hour.
It is a theatre
On fire.
History now
Is not the empty castle but the
train
Emerging from the tunnel, running
Down the embankment toward the
modest station,
Where it will lie like a box of toys,
broken,
Unpacked in vain.

—Babette Deutsch.

Our Duty To The King's Forces

By Hon. John Bracken

Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party

Text of an address delivered at Irricana, Alberta, on August 11th.

VII

Let me emphasize that it is the policy of this party that pensions must be raised from the grudging level of what is the least amount which might be paid to the level of what it is right and proper should be paid.

Red tape in connection with pensions ought to be cut to the bone. Action should be speeded up. Those on service must be made to feel that the wishes of their fellow citizens will be translated into action without unnecessary bureaucratic delay. Legal and other technicalities must be met, but they must not be allowed to stand in the way of substantial justice. We have no desire to establish a class of people living on the bounty of the taxpayers. But we have a desire to see—and will see—that the facts are faced with sympathy. Above all, justice will be dealt to those who have given something which dollars can never adequately replace.

On demobilization we shall have nearly three-quarters of a million men and women of the armed forces to restore to civilian life. I have but little criticism of the plans made by the civil servants at Ottawa, for providing assistance, education and training to those who require these things. I have no objection, and indeed warmly approve, the suggestion that generous bonuses be made to all demobilized members of the services.

* * *

I had intended at this point to deal exhaustively with the question of the proper amount of war service allowance or gratuity which should be granted to members of our forces upon their discharge. I have very definite views as to what should be done in this respect. However, a war service gratuity resolution was placed before the House of Commons yesterday, and I have not yet had the opportunity to review it in detail. If it is ample in its generosity as I believe it should be, then it will have my full support, but for the moment I prefer to refrain from comment until I have had the opportunity of seeing the actual provisions of the bill. At a later date I shall have something further to say on this subject.

* * *

It would be out of place to close this address without making some reference to a special group of older veterans who deserve our most hearty support and co-operation—the men who have given us their service in two wars.

I refer particularly to the ten thousand men of the Veterans' Guard of Canada who have done an outstanding job of work in guarding vital points and the thousands of prisoners of war located in this country. Their job has been done under most difficult conditions. When they return to civil life, they will do so as men fairly well along in years. Policies must be brought into effect which will see that these men are given such opportunities according to their age, as will enable them to maintain themselves in comfort and dignity.

* * *

I have made several suggestions with respect to the State's provisions for its veterans. It will be said that these proposals cost extra money. Of course some of them will. But it will be only a dribble compared with other expenditures the Government has promised. And let me point out also that Canada for three hundred and sixty-five days a year for the last five years has borne the staggering cost of war and, in addition, has given aid amounting to billions to her allies. The cost of proper rehabilitation and treatment of our veterans will be the equal of a few, a very few days of the cost of war. Let that sink in. We paid for fighting the war—we must now pay the further cost of caring for those who fought it for us.

I have told the men and women of our armed forces what we are prepared to do for them as a matter of right, not as a matter of charity. I have told them they have done a good job in the war. I am going to challenge them now to do an equally good job in the days of peace. I am going to ask the veterans of both sexes to continue to work for Canada which means for themselves and for us.

* * *

I believe, as you all do, that Canada is one of the few lands of great opportunity which this world has to offer to human beings. It is a vast land, a potentially rich land, a land not without its problems, but it is our land. And it can only achieve its full measure of greatness by the co-operation of all its citizens.

I therefore ask of our men and women on service one request. It is to meet the challenge of peace as you met the challenge of war. I ask you to carry into the days of peace the same courage, the same initiative, and the same will to win, that twice within a generation, has led our men in triumph over one of history's great military powers. I ask each one of you to take up the challenge to cooperate with us at home in order that together we may make of Canada a land where true democracy shall reign, where opportunities shall be open to all on equal terms and where none shall be denied such a full measure of justice as his contribution merits, and where above all those of us who were denied the privilege of bearing arms may demonstrate to those who did that they shall not be handicapped in days of peace because they responded to the nation's call in days of war.

* * *

One brief word more. You fought the war. We stood behind you. Many of us were denied the privilege of bearing arms. We, too, like you, face a peacetime challenge. It is the same as yours—but it is one thing more. We face the challenge to demonstrate to you who fought that you shall not be handicapped in days of peace because you responded to the nation's call in days of war. We accept that challenge. We accept it as you accept yours. Together you and we can make Canada a nation in which we can all take pride. I know you will do your part. I propose to do mine. I feel sure other civilians will do theirs. My prayer is that we may each be given the wisdom and strength to pull together for the good of Canada and for the welfare, without distinction, of the human beings who together make up her population.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

FITTING RETURNED MEN AS PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

Sir,—It is now more than ever before, necessary that the education given to girls and boys should fit them for actual living — and that in a new age. Therefore it is also most essential that in these days of post-war transition teachers capable of giving this kind of education should, somehow, be found for our schools. As it is at present, many of our teachers are immature girls with little experience of life. And, we must remember that in the ten years or so, immediately preceeding the war—generally speaking, the standards of living amongst young people had changed considerably; deteriorated, in fact. So that now, we have even less suitable material from which to draw proper teachers. Having a good time and this with perfect "freedom" and with most of the old restraints gone, seemed to be the ideal of the age immediately preceeding the war, and indeed in civilian life at present. This and the rapid attaining of modern "things" —clothes and the adornment of the outward person. Character, education, the niceties of living, and indeed religion, seems to be sort of in the discard. So, what can we expect of our schools?

But, what have these returned men to bring to us—some of them even with body disabilities—in the way of suitable equipment for the new type teaching profession, and, indeed for a new education?

They have grown up. They have been out in the world, contacted great men—and men of many nations. They have trained minds and trained bodies; therefore they have learned self-control. They have been taught obedience—to instantly obey commands and, in many cases, taught to command and to demand obedience; therefore they should make good disciplinaries. And, above all, those who are capable of learning by experience—and every good soldier must be—**have learned relative values, the putting of first things first.** They have learned how to think clearly and accurately. How to form right conclusions. To be inventive, ingenious, adaptable. To have courage, patience and endurance. Not to put self first. How to live happily and congenially with their fellow-men, even when of a vastly different type and character. All this, and much more, has the business of war brought to our war-weary Canadian boys.

But what about the wealth of knowledge and information that these men must have attained in their very real and definite experiences in other lands and with people of different nationalities? Wisdom and learning that they would not have gleaned from books in a life-time of study; geography, history, philosophy, economics, religion in its need and practical help, particularly in times of great pain and emergencies.

What beautiful things and places they have seen—such as in their old Canadian days they never dreamed even existed! New ways of doing things. Capable of realizing the mistakes that have been made in the past—perhaps in all lands. A new interest in the government of a country and of the social and economic conditions of their own, and other lands:—but why go on? Every thinking person can add to my list.

Are not all of these and dozens of other war-attained assets, valuable material to bring to this new profession: "Directors of Education" What a pity to let it go to waste, particularly, when such characteristics and attainments for leadership and instruction are so badly needed right here and now.

Of course a well thought out, and carefully administered, short but streamlined course must supplement these already achieved attainments; additional academic education, methods of teaching, etc.

But think carefully over all these suggestions. And remember: "The old order changeth, yielding place to new . . . Lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

I am, Sir, etc.
M. W. F.
Moncton, N. B.

LONDON - (CP) - Naturalization certificates will be issued for illegitimate children born overseas to British women in the forces. The number of children affected is small.

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